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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: October 12, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Regulate Use of Wheeled, Motorized Vehicles in the Russell Lake Parcel, Roscommon County
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 18 of 2009

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director to issue orders to implement land use rules.

Discussion and Background:

The Russell Lake Parcel was acquired in 2007 by the Department to conserve an area which provides critical winter thermal-cover habitat for deer on Russell Lake in Roscommon County. When purchased, it was with the intent to maintain closure of the area to wheeled, motorized vehicle use and to provide for pedestrian access only. The parcel was fenced and gated at the time of purchase, and the fence and gate remain in place. There is also a parking lot for public use at the southwest boundary of the parcel.

Recently, individuals have started driving around the gate. The road crosses an earthen dam which has a washout and is not suitable or safe for vehicle travel. The closure is also necessary to prevent damage to the road because of the high water table on the property.

Public comment concerning the continued closure to wheeled vehicular access was gathered at a Roscommon Management Unit open house held September 10, 2008. The comments received were very much in favor of keeping the area open to pedestrian traffic only. The Northern Lower Peninsula Ecoteam reviewed the closure request and recommended approval following the open house.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
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Recommendation:

We recommend that this amendment to the Land Use Orders of the Director be signed and implemented to close the Russell Lake Parcel, Roscommon County, to wheeled, motorized vehicle use.

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement

David E. Freed, Chief
Office of Land and Facilities

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife

Kelley D. Smith, Ph.D., Chief
Fisheries

Armind S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. 18 of 2009

By authority conferred on the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by section 504 of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.504, and pursuant to R 299.671 and R 299.921 of the Michigan Administrative Code, it is ordered that the following order of the Land Use Orders of the Director shall read as follows:

4.43 Certain state-owned lands, Roscommon county, camping, wheeled motorized vehicles, use or occupy lands, discharge of firearms, prohibited conduct.

Order 4.43. (1) A person shall not camp during the period of May 1 through September 14 within the W1/2 of the NE1/4 of the SW1/4 of section 32, T22N R1W, Roscommon county.

(2) A person shall not camp, use, or occupy the twin lakes state forest campground in section 5, T21N R1W, Roscommon county.

(3) A person shall not operate a wheeled motorized vehicle, except for otherwise lawful operation upon a designated trail or designated route within that part of section 14 lying west of highway M-55, and that part of section 23 lying west of highway M-76 and north of Emery road, T22N R1W, Roscommon county.

(4) A person shall not camp, except in Reedsburg dam state forest campground, upon the NW1/4 of the NW1/4 and the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of section 30; section 19; and the NW1/4 of the NW1/4 of section 31, T23N R4W, Roscommon county.

(5) A person shall not camp on state-owned lands within the E1/2 of the SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of the NE1/4, section 20, T22N R3W, Roscommon county.

(6) A person shall not discharge a firearm or operate a wheeled motorized vehicle within the SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 and the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of section 15, T23N R1W, Roscommon county.

(7) A person shall not operate a wheeled motorized vehicle within the W1/2 of the NE1/4 of section 7, T23N R03W. The NW1/4 of the SE1/4 of section 8, T22N R02W, and in section 19, T22N R02W, Roscommon county.

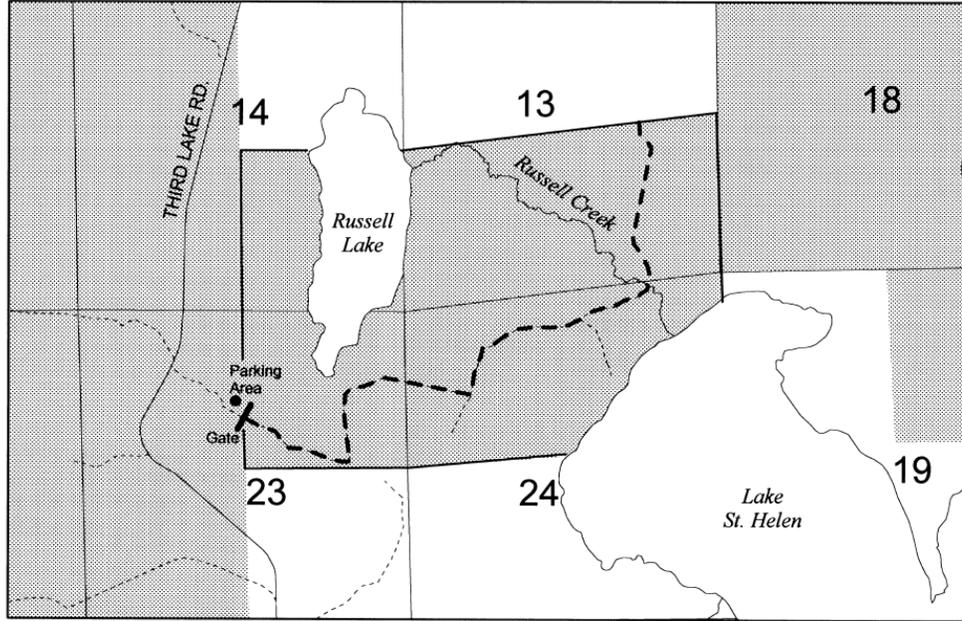
(8) A person shall not operate a wheeled, motorized vehicle within the S1/2 of section 13; the SE1/4 of section 14; the NE1/4 of section 23; and the N1/2 of section 24, T23N R2W, known as the Russell lake parcel, Roscommon county.

This amended order shall be posted on or after November 6, 2009.

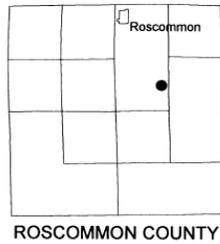
Issued on this 5th day of November, 2009.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

**PROPOSED AREA CLOSURE
TO WHEELED MOTORIZED VEHICLE USE**
Land Use Order of the Director, Amendment No.18 of 2009
Roscommon Forest Management Unit - Roscommon County
Compartment No. 87, T23N, R02W, Sections 13-14 and 23-24



- - Proposed road to be closed
- Russell Lake acquisition area to be closed to wheeled motorized vehicle use
- Forest road, other two track
- County road
- ▨ State land
- Private land



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